

New status for Nagorno-Karabakh

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet parliament approved a new status for the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh Tuesday which appears to return it to the control of Armenia. Journalists said the decision, approved by a wide majority during a session of the Supreme Soviet closed to the press and public, enraged Armenian delegates, who walked out of the debating chamber before the vote was taken. More than 120 people have died in two years of conflict over the territory, populated mainly by Armenians. It was annexed by Azerbaijan since 1922. Some 200,000 people have left their homes to flee the violence. Nikolai Ragnier, an Armenian journalist based in the Armenian capital, Baku, said the measures included dissolution of a Moscow-appointed committee currently running the territory. A Moscow-based Armenian communist said that the committee run by Krasnaya Army had been replaced by a new body answerable mainly to Armenia. Ragnier said the new body, an "extra-parliamentary council," would be made up of local government and Communist Party officials. Five thousand special troops in the area would be replaced by police based in Armenia.

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Syria builds up against Baabda

BAABDA, Lebanon (AP) — Syria poured troops and armour into Lebanon Tuesday, apparently preparing for an assault on military leader Gen. Michel Aoun's headquarters east of Beirut after the new Damascus-backed government fired him as army commander.

An aide to Aoun said that despite the reinforcements, the general was "determined not to give in. We'll fight to the end."

France, the "Fascists' traditional protector, stepped in to avert another round of bloodshed.

French envoy Francois Scheer arrived in Lebanon, while the Foreign Ministry in Paris declared in a statement that France "will not be on the side of those who would assume the responsibility of again taking up violence."

Residents in Shatoua, a Syrian-controlled markettown on the main Damascus-Baabda Highway in the eastern Bekaa Valley, said they were jolted out of beds during the night by the loud rumble of trucks and tanks.

The residents, insisting on anonymity for security considerations, said some 15,000-16,000 troops in 800 trucks had moved in.

by midday (1000 GMT) Tuesday from Syria.

They counted some 120 artillery pieces of various caliber, 90 Soviet-designed T-62 tanks, 40 multi-barreled rocket launchers, two mine-clearing tanks, and several fuel trucks heading west toward the central mountains and Beirut after crossing into Lebanon.

Other military sources said the reinforcements deployed along mountain ridges above the Baabda Presidential Palace and on the green line, which divides Beirut into eastern and western sectors.

Syria, the main power-broker in Lebanon, has had 400,000 troops on 70 per cent of Lebanese territory under a 1976 Arab League peacekeeping mandate. It supports newly elected President Elias Hrawi, a Maronite Catholic, and a cabinet of national reconciliation under Prime Minister Salim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim, which is seeking to implement a peace plan to end 14 years of civil war.

Aoun, 54, has opposed the Arab League-brokered peace accord, approved by parliament last month. He rejected as "unconstitutional" Hrawi's election Friday because the parliament

session was held in the shadow of "Syrian occupation."

Aoun, a Maronite, has demanded a Syrian withdrawal as a precondition for any settlement.

Hrawi dismissed Aoun as head of an interim military cabinet Sunday and gave him 48 hours to leave the Baabda palace, traditional seat of Lebanese presidents, or face a lightning assault.

On Tuesday, a government statement fired Aoun as army commander.

Aoun's side, who refused to be named, said by telephone that the general "considers the decision to replace him with officer Lahoud null and void because it is unconstitutional."

The government statement appointed Adm. Emile Lahoud, 53, also a Maronite, as commander of the 42,000-strong armed forces, split along sectarian lines.

Aoun commanded some 20,000 mainly Christian units during a six-month battle against the Syrians that was halted Sept. 22 by an Arab League-brokered ceasefire.

The 22,000 poorly equipped Muslim soldiers under Maj.-Gen. Sami Khatib remained neutral in the battle in which nearly 1,000 people were killed.

Thousands of young Aoun

loyalists, waving Lebanese flags and banners, formed a human shield around the Baabda Presidential Palace.

"We will never surrender," one placard read in English. "We shall teach the world how nations could be liberated," another read.

One old man danced brandishing a stick and a dagger and declared: "We'll fight, even with such primitive weapons, to prevent the Syrians reaching the general."

"To kill all the Christian (parliamentary) deputies who elected Elias Hrawi president," he shouted as young men applauded.

"The general is the symbol of our independence. If the Syrians want to kill him, they'll have to kill us first," said Aoun loyalist Michel Hayek, a university student.

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A spokesman for Aoun's command, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was a Syrian MiG-23.

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Khartoum rules out secession for south

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Sudan's military leader, General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, has ruled out secession for South Sudan ahead of peace talks with southern rebels starting in Kenya Friday.

"There is no Sudanese official who can agree on establishing a separate state in the south. It is not acceptable," Bashir told a news conference in Kuwait late Monday.

"But there are alternatives which southern Sudanese are talking about."

Rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have been fighting since 1983 to end what they see as domination of the mainly Christian or animist south by the Muslim, Arabised north.

The Qatar News Agency said Bashir arrived in Doha Tuesday on the second leg of a Gulf tour. He will also visit Bahrain.

Bashir said his talk in Kuwait with the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, and Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah focused on bilateral ties and were positive.

Meanwhile Sunday's 5-month-old military regime is saddled with its first strike this week, by government doctors, and students took to the streets in the first anti-government demonstration.

Doctors left their jobs Sunday and vowed not to work for a week to protest detention of colleagues in military jails. Witnesses said hundreds of students marched Monday to protest military rule. Mass protests have brought

Abu Nidal 'suffering from cancer'

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Abu Nidal, one of the most feared Palestinian guerrilla leaders, is hospitalised in Tripoli with what Algerian sources described Tuesday as "terminal cancer."

One Algerian medical source who recently returned from Libya denied a report published in New York that Abu Nidal, who has lived in Libya since his 1987 expulsion from Syria, has been placed under house arrest by Libyan police in response to pressure from Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"In reality, Abu Nidal is in a military hospital in Libya suffering from a cancerous metastase which is probably terminal," the Algerian physician said. He insisted that his name be withheld.

A metastase is cancerous tissue which transmits the infection throughout the body.

Turkey demands extradition of Kurdish guerrillas from Iraq

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkey has demanded that Iraq track down and extradite the Kurdish guerrillas who killed 28 villagers near the Turkish-Iraqi border.

Iraqi envoy Tariq Jawad was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and told that Turkey also expects Iraq to take the necessary measures to prevent similar incidents in the future, Turkish officials said.

According to official accounts, a group of guerrillas attacked the Ikiyata village in Hakkari province Friday evening. While one group drew the village guards to the north of the village with rifle fire, another group raided two houses in the southern sector, spraying automatic weapons fire and hurling hand grenades.

Twenty people were killed from two families, including 12 children. Interior Minister Abdul Kadir Aksu told reporters in the eastern city of Diyarbakir Monday that the bodies of eight

"This shows that the Armenian

shepherds kidnapped by the guerrillas during the raid were later found elsewhere near the Iraqi border. Aksu said a ninth shepherd managed to escape.

Officials said that the attackers came in from Iraq and escaped back across the border after the raid.

Aksu said his investigation showed that Armenian groups were also involved in Friday's attack in addition to the PKK, also known as the Kurdish Labour Party, the semi-official Anatolia News Agency reported.

"A written statement with the code name of Hogir was left near the slain villagers after the attack. Cemil Isik, whose codename is Hogir, is of Armenian origin and this shows that there were Armenian terrorist groups besides the PKK (Kurdish Labour Party) which were behind the attack," Aksu was quoted by the Anatolia news agency.

"The Armenian groups which have targeted our diplomats abroad until a few years ago are now trying to maintain their activities with efforts to kill civilians within the PKK structure," Aksu was quoted as saying.

Armenians say the Ottoman Turks killed 1.5 million ethnic Armenians during the last decade of the Ottoman Empire. Turks say the number of dead is at most 600,000, most of whom died from disease and hunger during deportation from eastern Turkey to Syria and Lebanon during World War I.

Armenian groups have claimed responsibility for the killings of 41 Turks, including 30 diplomats and their dependents abroad, from 1973 to 1984.

Aksu said the killings in the Ikiyata village came as retaliation for a clash between the insurgents and the security forces on Nov. 21 which left two guerrillas dead and two others wounded.

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Deserts 9/25

Jordan Valley 13/27

Yesterdays' high temperatures: Amman 25, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 26 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

Dr. Abdel Karim Khaderhach (—)

Khaderhach pharmacy 985417

Civil Defence Department 661111

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Police 6221111

Al-Azam Hospital 662362

Malha, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmeisani 6617114

University Hospital 669131

Al-Jawhara Hospital 664545

The Islamic, Abdali 66612737

Italian, Al-Mashaireen 7771013

Al-Basit, J. Ashraf 77511126

Army, Ma'ta 65616175

Qasr Al-Husn Hospital 66224050

Amal Hospital 674135

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (03) 963320

Zarqa National Hospital (03) 961071

Ruwaished Hospital (03) 966732

IRSHID:

Princess Bassma Hospital (02) 75555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02) 772275

Don Al-Nafis Hospital (02) 247100

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Dubai (AZ) 0635

Bahrain (BA) 0636

Princess Haya Hospital (03) 314111

Benghazi (LN) 1435

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Intifada boosting Arab image in U.S.

By Sami Attiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — When the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) was first established in the U.S. in 1980, the Arabs were looked upon as "terrorists and corrupt oil-rich sheikhs." But in the 23 months since the Palestinian intifada erupted, the situation has changed and the Arabs are now being shown as "human beings with rights," thus strengthening the ADC position in the U.S., according to ADC President Abdellah Jabara.

"For the first time, the intifada has shown Arabs as human beings who are prepared to use non-violent tactics to win their freedom because it is one of the great civilian uprisings in history," Jabara said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Jabara, who was in Amman as part of a working visit to the Middle East said that the truth about the Arabs was coming out.

"The American people have witnessed through the intifada the reality of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. There's an incredible new public awareness in the U.S., which has been demonstrated in various public opinion polls," Jabara said.

He added that the ADC was trying to translate the "great amount of public support into a political reality, in which American officials will support the rights of Palestinians just like any other people in the world."

Jabara indicated that a new atmosphere is created in the U.S., in which the once unthinkable there is now thinkable.

He referred to a recent forum held on Capitol Hill entitled "Search for Peace in the Middle East" for members of Congress and their aides on foreign affairs. Participants included Edward Saeed, Senator George McGovern, Ambassador Robert Neumann and Philip Klutznick, a prominent Jewish-American leader.

"Every single one in that forum came out in support of a Palestinian state," Jabara said.

"On how little influence public opinion has on foreign policy makers, the ADC president said that if the American people knew the truth about the Arab-Israeli reality, the people would do the "right" thing.

He added that the American foreign-policy makers could only stand against public opinion "for so long."

"In the long run, they have to be responsive to the changed perceptions that exist in the U.S.," he said.

Although pro-Israel lobbies and organisations are much wealthier and better staffed than the ADC, the intifada has weakened their position and influence, according to Jabara.

He stressed that these organisations concentrate on elected officials in their campaigns. Jabara noted how some officials had previously lost in elections because they promoted Palestinian rights.

"Elected officials fear that they will be targeted to lose. Charles Percy and Paul Findley (author of "They Dare to Speak Out") were made as examples," Jabara explained.

He added that during the last American elections, John Chaffey was targeted to lose by the Israeli lobby — the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), but he won anyway because a AIPAC exposed that fact and helped Chaffey in the elections.

Jabara said that pro-Israeli forces continue to try to keep any kind of information about the Palestinian problem and the intifada from the American people.

"These attempts are becoming less successful and more people are beginning to resent the attempt to cut off any kind of balance in terms of presentation," Jabara commented.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- * An exhibition of paintings and etchings inspired by Arabic Islamic art at Abdul Hameed Shemseddin Foundation.
- * An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasati Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- * Book exhibition at the University of Yarmouk.
- * A Gem Tree exhibition, by "Latiff Abu Hamdan" at the Exhibition Hall of the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * An art exhibition by Ghassan Al Housi, Abdil Atwan and Abdessamad Nawashish at the Jordanian Plastic Artists Association, Salmiya — 5:00 p.m.

LECTURE

- * A lecture entitled "Administrative development in Jordan" by Khalil Al-Salem at the Royal Cultural Centre — 5:00 p.m.

Conclave demands protection of rights of disabled

By Marjan M. Shabir
Jordan Times Staff Writer

MENTIONED.

He said that the most recent example was the showing of "Days of Rage" on the intifada when the Public Broadcasting Television first dropped it and another station picked it up. When the pro-Israeli forces failed to stop the programme, they succeeded to "have certain wrap-around placed on it, which I think did not in any way diminish the message."

ADC and the intifada

Jabara said the ADC was active in promoting and popularising the intifada among the American public, as well as with elected officials and the State Department. The activities are many but two major campaigns received much success in the U.S.

"We knew it was vitally important for the ADC to initiate a programme in which hundreds of Americans from all walks of life could be witness to what is happening in the occupied territories," he said.

Jabara noted that this decision came after the discovery of a memo of a meeting held by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger for a number of Jewish-American leaders, where he indicated that he had advised the Israeli government to close down the occupied territories to the media and to crush the intifada. The ADC was able to expose that memo to the media.

"Then we initiated the Eye-Witness Israel programme," he explained.

This programme was designed to recruit human right activists, people involved in church activities, peace advocates, civil rights activists and others to travel and live with Palestinian families in the towns, villages and refugee camps in the occupied territories for three weeks.

After returning to the U.S., the ADC arranged for these witnesses to meet with the State Department, the office of human rights, their congressional representatives, and peace groups and reported what they witnessed of Israel's oppressive practices against the Palestinians. There was also an Eye-witness report that was published by the ADC on the individuals' observations.

Eyewitnesses to the intifada also included congressional aides, as well as lawyers and doctors who examined the conditions in the Ansar III detention camp in the Naqab desert.

Another delegation consisted of mayors of American towns named after towns in Palestine.

The most recent ADC campaign for the intifada was the erection of posters in the Washington, D.C. metro system for one month, urging support for Palestinian independence. The posters depicted Palestinian youth carrying the Palestinian flag holding up a victory sign, with the American eagle in the background. The poster read:

"Americans fought for freedom and independence in 1776, Palestinians are fighting for these same rights today. Support Palestinian independence. Call or write your con-

gressperson today."

Putting up these posters were apparently successful, according to Jabara. "Over 250,000 people ride the D.C. metro cars. We believe that it's a very cost-effective way of getting our message out to many people who are government employees," he said.

Intifada posters were also erected in the D.C. subway system last year, depicting an Israeli soldier beating a Palestinian man with a gun. The poster read: "Israel putting your money to work!" The poster explained that the American citizens' money, \$10 million a day, helps Israel violate Palestinian human rights, and urges them to tell their congressperson to "say no to unconditional aid to Israel."

Houses begin work on reply to King's speech

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Ahmad Al Lawzi Tuesday chaired a meeting of a Senate committee in charge of preparing the reply to the speech from the Throne. The deputies discussed the speech and the broad guidelines for the reply.

The Lower House's committee also included congressional aides, as well as lawyers and doctors who examined the conditions in the Ansar III detention camp in the Naqab desert.

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AUDIT ASSOCIATION MEETING: A delegation representing the Jordan Audit Association left Amman Tuesday for Tunis to participate in meetings of the Federation of Arab Accountants and Audits general secretariat. The two-day meeting will discuss means to develop auditing in the Arab countries and set general standards (Petra).

YARMOUK SCIENTIFIC DAY: Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan Toosay opened a scientific day organised by the university's fine arts faculty. The opening ceremony was attended by university staff and students, in addition to several guests (Petra).

CHRISTMAS PLAY: The Royal Theatre Company, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma will present the play Mother Goose Golden Christmas. The proceeds will aid the Jordanian Save the Children Fund. Performances will begin Nov. 30 and continue until Dec. 5 (J.T.).

ART EXHIBITION: An exhibition of paintings by Ghassan Al Hasani, Adib Atwan and Abdulla Nawashish will be open to the public Nov. 29 at 5:00 p.m. at the Jordanian Plastic Art Association Hall under the patronage of Her Highness Princess Wijdan Ali (J.T.).

Surgical option' against Aoun

(Continued from page 1)

Western military attack. "The reinforcements that Syria moved into Beirut and the area near Souk Al Gharb are an indication of Damascus' assessment of the firepower it might need to overpower Aoun."

Another European diplomat, who was stationed in Beirut for over seven years in the late 70s and early 80s, believes that whatever the Syrians might do, "they will steer clear of intruding into the Christian heartland any further than Baabda simply because any such incursion will not be tolerated by the Lebanese Forces or the Falangist Party — both of whom

have extended tacit support for the Taif accord and the election of Hrawi."

The net scenario that emerges in Lebanon, in the opinion of the observer and analyst here, is that "a surgical operation" against the presidential palace is in the offing, and it could come any day. At the same time, the possibility is also strong that Hrawi, taking advantage of the renewed French mediation efforts, could opt to wait out.

However, on the political level, the possibility of Lebanese forces leader Samir Geageb and Falangist chief George Saadeh "cutting a deal with Hrawi" is also very strong.

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Will the general come to his senses?

LEBANESE President Elias Hrawi and defiant General Michel Aoun were on a collision course as the president's 48-hour ultimatum drew to a close Tuesday. In principle, President Hrawi is right in demanding that General Aoun submit to legitimacy for no central government can tolerate or condone forever a rebellious posture by its army chief. The ideal situation would be to avoid an armed collision that could cause wounds that would be very hard to heal. At the same time General Aoun should show more willingness to reconcile the differences and should, at least, accept mediation from those who have Lebanon's overall interests at heart. By refusing even to talk to President Hrawi and by insisting on maintaining status quo ante in Lebanon, as if nothing had happened in the past 14 years, General Aoun is only courtting catastrophe for himself, his followers and his people. And as long as General Aoun goes on to ridicule the new order in Lebanon, there can be no escape from a military showdown that would reestablish legitimacy all over the Lebanese territories.

It must have dawned on General Aoun by now that all parties and forces that have opted to support the Taif Agreement, which is the basis of the new process in Lebanon, did not necessarily do so out of deep conviction that the agreement was perfect. Many co-religionists of Aoun, including Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, have decided to lend their support to the Taif Agreement after weighing all the factors and circumstances and after concluding that on balance the Taif accord offers the only viable and operational formula to put an end to death and destruction in Lebanon. General Aoun has neither the right nor the mandate to reject what so many of his countrymen, including the Lebanese parliament, have accepted. It would have been more prudent of him to put the Taif accord to the real test by accepting a plebiscite on it rather than offering to sacrifice the lives of thousands of Lebanese people to back up his obstinate interpretation of the accord. Surely the general knows that he was neither elected by the people nor recognised by the international community for him to continue his self-defeating crusade against the new tide in Lebanon.

Political medicine sometimes prescribes surgical operations to stop a bleeding or an illness. It is the hope of all mankind that the stage is not irrevocably set for a desperate operation to remove the remaining stumbling bloc to the process of healing in Lebanon. But the more Aoun insists on staying at loggerheads with the majority of the Lebanese people the more imminent will be the projected military showdown between him and President Hrawi.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

ALL Jordanian Arabic dailies on Tuesday discussed His Majesty King Hussein's speech from the throne delivered at the opening of the 11th Parliament.

Al Ra'i Arabic paper gave prominence to the King's stress on Jordan's deep concern over the Palestine issue and the fate of the Palestinian people. The King voiced Jordan's continued efforts to support the rights of the Palestinians and their struggle for freedom, said the paper. The King also pledged continued endeavours world-wide to uphold the right and the identity of the Palestinians in their homeland, and an end to Israeli occupation, added the paper. *Al Ra'i* also gave prominence to the King's promise to set up a commission to deal with economic crimes and his promise to go ahead with plans to bolster the national economy, end corruption and introduce reform on a large scale. The paper said that the King's address contained a pledge that a national charter will be soon enacted to serve as an umbrella for all political groupings and their activities which should be conducted within the context of national unity, and with the sole purpose of serving the public. The paper said that the opening of parliament Monday signalled the beginning of a new era for Jordan's democratic rule and for the parliament members to embark on their serious task to serve their nation.

A columnist in *Al Ra'i* Arabic daily says that an ultimatum given to Michel Aoun to surrender bears the seeds of great danger since Aoun is not willing to give up his stand nor to succumb to the will of the Syrians. Abdul Rahim Omar says that if Hrawi carried out his threats Lebanon will be in great danger of an all-out explosion which will cause untold suffering and further destruction. It is indeed a serious stage through which Lebanon is going at the moment, and it calls for tactful and wise steps on the part of all concerned parties if bloodshed is to be avoided at any cost, says the writer. Omar says that Hrawi seems to be determined to rely on the Syrian army in his bid to regain the presidential palace at Baabda and oust Aoun from his present position. And this could bring about a new round of conflict that would involve different parties like Israel which could be asked by Aoun to give him help in the face of the looming danger. The writer believes that the Arab League which paved the ground for the Parliament meeting and the election of the president should have a hand in this affair, so as to prevent Israel from interfering on the one hand, and to enable the parties to reach a settlement on the other.

Al Dustour daily said in its editorial Tuesday that the King's speech from the throne to Parliament Monday outlined all Jordanian achievements over the past years and urged the deputies to pursue the efforts towards the achievement of further accomplishments. The paper dwelt particularly on the Palestine issue and reminded the audience of Jordan's wise decision to sever links with occupied West Bank so as to give boost to the PLO's moves and the struggle of the Palestinian people and the intifada to regain Palestinian rights and independence. The paper also recalled the King's reference to Jordan's endeavours to help Iraq against the Iranian aggression and his mention of the Kingdom's ongoing efforts to bolster solidarity among the Arab states. The speech, the paper said, presented a guideline for the deputies in the coming stage, urging them to pursue the efforts towards strengthening the country's ties with the Arab World and to move ahead with plans for domestic reform.

Painful lessons from a war with human misery

By McGeorge Bundy

AMSTERDAM — The worldwide effort to improve the family planning choices open to the people of developing countries has been constrained by many forces — limited resources, illiteracy, the imperfection of contraceptives, and the existence of deeply-rooted convictions that are inconsistent with sensitive and effective family planning.

Such convictions often lead to policy choices that have consequences just the opposite of what their backers hope for. Overenthusiastic or insensitive pressure for birthrate reductions can generate reactions that discredit a programme.

But the case I want to discuss is that of the impact on worldwide population programmes of the American debate over abortion. That impact has been limited, but insofar as American right-to-lifers have had any effect on the worldwide resort to abortion, that impact has been to increase both its frequency and its cost in maternal suffering and death.

There can be no doubt of the deep sincerity of most of those in the right-to-life movement. They believe passionately that abortion

But in 1984, the Reagan administration moved against abortion

is an offense against God's word. Not every politician who seeks their support is as deeply persuaded as they are. Most politicians — indeed most Americans — have convictions less categorical than those of the deeply embattled believers in the "right to life" or the sometimes equally embattled believers in unlimited recourse to abortion throughout pregnancy.

The renewed American debate of 1989 suggests that those in the middle, believers in modern contraceptives and skeptical of abortionist views on abortion, will turn out to hold the balance of power.

In the early 1980s, partly because their desire to attack American abortions was at least temporarily constrained by Roe v. Wade, and partly because they had friends in the Reagan administration, right-to-life leaders turned their attention to American support of family planning in developing countries. That programme was then the largest such government enterprise in the world, the product of a happy combination of professional understanding, presidential leadership and public support.

But in 1984, the Reagan adminis-

tration moved against abortion

abroad. Initially it sought to cut off all U.S. support for any population activities of governments supporting abortion with other funds. But in the end it seems to have recognised that such direct efforts to change the policies of other governments would only stiffen their insistence on making their own choices, and the new rules were restricted to other organisations, one of which was the United Nations Population Fund. The right-to-lifers' parallel efforts to reduce appropriations for all international population work were blocked in Congress, but their pressure did contribute to a flattening of the level of U.S. government support for population activities in developing countries.

women eager to avoid childbirth and so enlarged the number resorting to abortion.

We cannot know how much world-wide family planning service was constrained, or how many legal or extralegal abortions could have been avoided if the needs of women eager to avoid childbirth had been met in other ways. But what is not in doubt is that women with access to decent contraceptive services are less often driven to seek the abortionist in the alley. And extralegal abortion is one of the most important causes of maternal suffering and death.

Obviously I am not suggesting that this result was intended, or even that it should be charged against right-to-life leaders as an immoral consequence that they should have taken into account.

From their standpoint it could not be attractive to support what they see as the evil of contraceptive services merely in order to moderate the greater evil of abortion.

But I think this result nonetheless deserves close attention.

In the long history of our attempts to understand cause and effect in population policy, there are many examples of error, and

many of them share one characteristic: They oversimplify the problem. There are still those who oversimplify the relation between population growth and economic development — there was an oversimplification of that kind in the Reagan administration's demarche of 1984, and there have been oversimplifications at the other extreme, too.

Many of us were slow to understand that contraceptive devices are unlikely to have much impact without appropriate contraceptive services, and we came more slowly than we should have to a recognition that a lively concern for the roles, responsibilities, and general health of women is essential to any good arrangement for family planning.

But what we all know today is that more careful statements on all these points can be persuasively argued: There can be great cost in unlimited explosions of the birthrate; there are both medical and cultural arguments for diversity of choice; and the establishment of a strong programme in any country requires political leadership.

What we also know is that a really good family planning programme — anchored in the serious

support of political leaders, conducted by women and men who do their work with knowledgeable care, and responsive to the real needs of the people who are served, is quite simply a human good whose real value is wholly apparent when one thinks what present and future life would be without it.

We have engaged ourselves, without illusion, in a war with human misery. The reality in any world without family planning skills would not be the disciplined monogamous moderation of those who can meet the strictest standards of their own creed. The governing reality is that the sexual urge of our species is vastly stronger than the rules of religion. This is not a value judgement, it is a much more powerful proposition: a statement of fact supported by the experience of every generation in every continent.

No one should deny the right of those with a particular conviction to pursue it unconstrained by contraceptive devices. But it is another matter to leave them unanswered when they conclude that either preachment or law can make everyone else like them — International Herald Tribune.



Yugoslav foreign policy—nonaligned and European

By Svetislav Maksovic

YUGOSLAVIA must actively join in the ongoing processes of Europe's integration. But this does not mean that it must renounce the philosophy of nonalignment which implies one world, one common home in which mankind will live in peace and cooperation. For Yugoslavia, which opted for a specific road of development, rejecting pressures from both East and West, this was a crucial step towards establishing ties with countries ready to cooperate on an equal footing, a step towards shaping a better, more just world.

Stretching south-east from the Alps in Central Europe deep into the Balkan peninsula, on strategic territory that was for centuries a battleground fought over by contending empires, Yugoslavia could not have chosen to pursue any other policy. Geographically, Europe is Yugoslavia's home, and its historical and cultural ties with it are inescapable. This is why, in this time of major, far-reaching changes when Mitterrand and Gorbachev, the leaders of two countries which belong to blocs which until quite recently seemed irreconcilable, both talk about building a "common European home," Yugoslavia are more and more looking towards such a Europe.

Is there any contradiction in Yugoslavia's desire to remain faithful to the policy of nonalignment adopted by a movement made up exclusively of developing nations and its desire to knit closer ties with the industrialized countries of Western Europe as these challenging times require? This is one of the most frequent questions put to Yugoslav officials.

Nonalignment, Yugoslavia's fundamental foreign policy orientation, has deep roots. Theories claim that they go as far back as the immediate post-war period, after the end of the national liberation war against Nazi Germany. At that time, Yugoslavia started an active and intensive search for authentic new roads of political, social and economic development. This included the aspiration to full independence and self-determination and the rejection of any attempts to dictate policy from outside.

Yugoslavia broke with Stalin in 1948 and soon afterwards, in the 1950s, the world fell into the grip of the cold war. At the start of the 1960s, the then Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito, together with India's Jawaharlal Nehru, Egypt's Gamal Abdal Nasser and

Discontent with political development found across China

By Kathy Wilhelm
The Associated Press

Lanzhou, China — A poster that went up during the first months of classes this fall at Lanzhou University declared that the student-led pro-democracy movement was not over.

Across China in the southern province of Canton, a college student was caught stuffing leaflets in mailboxes and bicycle baskets, pledging a "struggle to the end."

Pamphlets written by extreme leftists, criticising senior leader Deng Xiaoping as a capitalist, and by reformists, calling him scum, have appeared in the Mail of Chinese, and foreigners in several cities.

Students in southwestern Sichuan province were stopped by soldiers from marching to Deng's home village and desecrating his ancestors' graves. Soldiers remained camped there to protect the graves.

Residents in the northwestern city of Xian sometimes spit when they see a woman who turned in her younger brother, a student activist on the government's most-wanted list.

These incidents indicate political tensions that erupted into protest marches in April and led to the bloody crackdown in June have not spent themselves. Even as the Communist party celebrated 40 years in power in October, an eventual reckoning between it and China's 1.1 billion people seemed inevitable.

"People are waiting for Deng to die, just as they waited for the emperors to die," said a Western scholar, speaking on condition of anonymity. The 85-year-old leader, who has appeared several times in public lately, is believed to suffer from cancer.

"When Deng dies, we'll celebrate," said a college senior in Zhengzhou, who asked not to be identified for his own safety.

A college student in Lanzhou, the capital of Gansu province, worries that people will begin to believe the government's claim that counterrevolutionaries were behind the democracy movement, and that they and hoodlums caused more damage with rocks and bottles than soldiers did with tanks and guns.

In Beijing, few people believe the government explanations, even after hearing them for five months. To most people in the capital, the students remain heroes who spoke out against the government.

Two weeks of travel through provincial capitals found the same cynicism and anger in conversations with dozens of students, teachers and urban workers.

Only in the villages do ordinary people say with apparent sincerity that the government was right to order the military crackdown in Beijing, another opposed it.

The next day, a teacher said, "you students should talk less about it."

"How did he know?"

Lanzhou clings to the banks of the Yellow River 1,200 kilometres west of Beijing. For centuries, it was the westernmost outpost of Chinese civilisation; beyond was the thinly charted wilds of Mongolia and Xinjiang.

News from Beijing often arrives days late. By the time the impact of a government policy trickles down, a new policy often has taken its place, a government worker said.

"They used tear gas."

"They used tear gas," Zhou

Zhenchuan, a factory manager in peaceful village, near Lanzhou, said when asked how the army ended the protests. Told that soldiers also fired guns, he said in disbelief, "I never heard that."

Although the government stopped announcing arrests of suspected dissidents in July, after Tanqing features.

more than 2,000 were publicised, Chinese and Western sources in Lanzhou and three other provincial capitals — Zhengzhou, Xian and Chengdu — said a new wave of interrogations and arrests began in September, when colleges reopened. No reliable figures were available.

much larger.

Domestic radio in May reported marches in a dozen cities and towns in the southwestern province of Sichuan alone, including some places so small they could not be found in an atlas. A recent traveller to a dozen semi-rural county towns was told that

"Some professors who sympathised with the students or offered them advice have been banned from teaching and remain in limbo in their campus housing, not daring to meet with friends for fear of harming them by association."

"They're going through the libraries on campus and taking books off the shelves and locking them up," said a foreign teacher who insisted on not being identified, even by city.

Old files are being reopened, she said, and past writings and comments are being examined for signs of capitalist or Western sympathies.

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The student in Lanzhou said that after the poster went up at his university, signed "the China democratic league — Lanzhou branch," officials brought in handwriting experts. Within days, seven students were arrested.

"We don't know if our dorms are bugged," he said. "One night, a group of students debated among themselves — one group argued for putting down the turmoil, another opposed it.

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No hope

"Wang dan — the others — their fives were easy," she said, referring to a Beijing student leader now under arrest. "That's why they dared speak — they had no political experience."

She has spent most of her more than 30 years under the inherited stigma of her parents' 1957 label as "rightists."

"Speaking out does no good," she said, anger in her voice. "You can't change anything. You can only make it harder for yourself later on."

She said Chinese intellectuals are weak.

"Yes, I count myself among them. There's something lacking in our character. Why have all modern Chinese leaders been peasants? Look at Mao Tse-Tung, Deng Xiaoping."

The Lanzhou student expressed similar doubts about prospects for change.

"We talked about democracy, but no one really knew what it is," he said. "I only know what it is not. How does it work? We need to find out more about it." When, like thousands of students, he travelled to Beijing in May to join

Features

Rome mosque near completion

By Clare Pedrick

ROME. — Some people said it could never happen. Others did their best to make sure it never did. But nearly 20 years after the late King Faisal of Saudi Arabia first proposed the idea, the Eternal City, the cradle of Christianity, is getting ready for the dedication of a mosque up on the pine-clad hills of Monte Antenne.

Work on the giant edifice, which has cost more than \$37 million to build, is now in its final stages and the mosque should be ready for an opening ceremony early in 1990, officials say. The prayer hall will provide a place of worship for Rome's growing Muslim community, currently estimated at some 20,000 people.

A separate structure on the site, due for completion in 1991, will house a new Islamic Centre, to replace the present cramped quarters in the city's Parioli district.

The center will include a theatre, offices, a conference room, a smaller prayer hall for everyday use and an Islamic library whose shelves will be stocked with the largest collection of scholarly books in Western Europe.

Pio Portoghesi, the man chiefly responsible for designing the complex, says that the mosque is probably the most important monument to see the light of day in postwar Italy. Even so, he adds, the building represents far more than architectural achievement. "For me it symbolises the solid relationship between the Islamic world and the rest of the world, particularly the world of Christianity," he said, surveying the vast, square prayer hall, which can hold 2,000 worshippers.

With his engineer partner Vittorio Gigiotti, the 58-year-old Portoghesi, one of the leading names in Italian design, had the daunting task of creating a building that would be Islamic in mood and inspiration but aesthetically compatible with the architecturally rich city in which it is set.

While working on the project Portoghesi and his team had to battle against mountains of bureaucracy, religious bigotry, open hostility and even death threats from opponents of the mosque.

"The building of this mosque has had an extremely troubled history," said the architect. "I know there were a lot of people in the Islamic world who feared it would never be completed."

The story began back in 1970, when King Faisal, during an official visit to Italy, expressed his desire to have a mosque built in Rome and offered \$5.2 million toward its construction. Two years later, the Italian government succeeded in obtaining the permission of the Vatican, and the Rome City Council agreed to donate a more than 7 acres in one of the most beautiful sections of the Italian capital.

In 1974 the Islamic authorities held an international competition for its design, and ours was one of two groups to be selected," said Portoghesi. "The other group was led by the Iraqi architect Sami Mousawi and in the end the judges asked us to work together on a joint project."

The request created problems because each architect was eager to impose his own design. Mousawi won some of the design battles, arguing that certain ideas of the Italian team were out of keeping with Islamic tradition. The final result, however, remains very close to the original plans submitted by Portoghesi, particularly those of the prayer hall.

There were more hurdles to be overcome. The mosque has the energetic support of Rome's mayor at the time, Giulio Carlo Argano — an art historian by profession — but there were many others in the city who made it clear that they didn't welcome the idea. Among them were the MSI, Italy's small but vocal extreme right-wing party, and a larger, more powerful faction described by Portoghesi as "Catholic conservatives."

"In addition, there were claims it would become a center for terrorism. I myself received anonymous death threats and Mayor Argano had to go around with bodyguards. In my view, all of this shows that any threat of terrorism came not from the Muslims but from Christians who were making the threats."

Now that the long struggle is almost over, Portoghesi declares himself pleased with the result, especially, he says, with the blend of ancient materials and techniques used in conjunction with the

very latest in modern technology. The 17 cupolas, 1 large and 16 small ones, have covered with lead in the oldest of traditions. The outside of the mosque is faced with half-size bricks made in Venice, which were first used in ancient Roman times. The sky-blue paint used to cover the ceiling was carefully hand-mixed the way artisans used to blend it to prevent problems of condensation. By contrast, the pillars inside the mosque have been built using a very new technique.

"They're made of concrete, but used in a very modern way," explained Portoghesi. "Not like in the 1960s, which was so ugly. This cement has tiny pieces of Carrara marble mixed up with it, and the surface has been smoothed down, which gives it a very translucent quality."

Another highly innovative feature is the lighting, probably the mosque's most striking feature and the one that has given the architect the greatest satisfaction, he says. Up in the dome, small oblong windows send shafts of light down onto the worshippers. Another equally narrow slit runs right around each wall, hidden by a flange of stone. The effect is dazzling. As sunlight enters the building it is deflected upward toward the dome. Below the point where it enters are strips of travertine engraved with inscriptions from the Koran.

"It's something that has never been seen in a mosque before. The idea is for it to seem as though the light is flowing from the words of the Prophet," said Portoghesi. "In fact, the idea I had in my mind while designing this building was the 'Surah' of Light, which I think is one of the most beautiful parts of the Koran."

Portoghesi, who is a professor of architecture at Rome University and president of Venice's famous Biennale contemporary art exhibition, has long been an admirer of Islamic culture. He first read the Koran nearly 20 years ago and has developed spe-

cial courses on Islamic architecture at the request of some of his Palestinian students. He designed two other mosques, one in Amman, Jordan, and the other in Khartoum, Sudan, but the Rome mosque presented special difficulties, he noted.

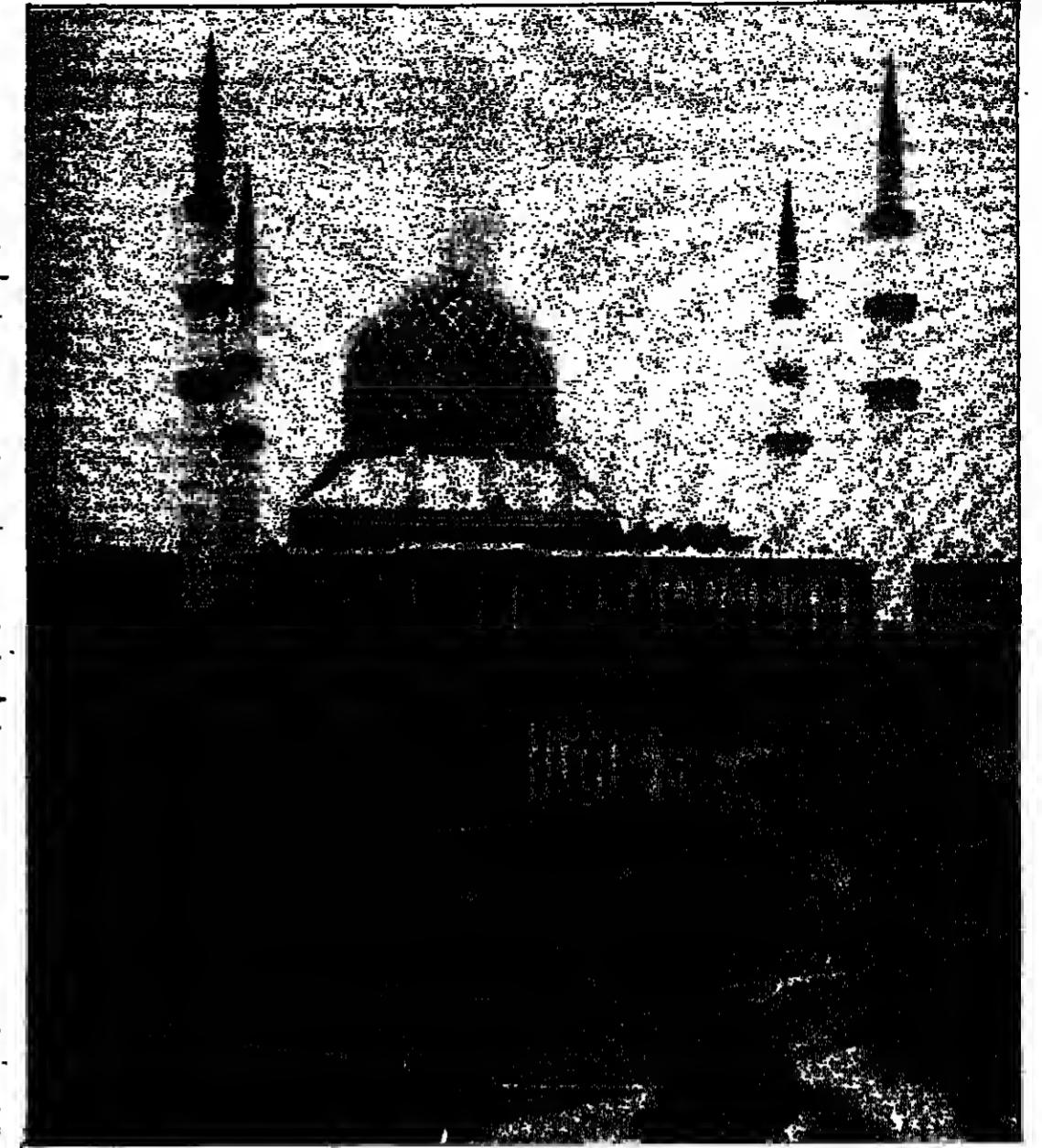
"It's one thing to build a mosque in an Islamic setting, and quite another to build one in a city such as Rome. From the beginning, this was by definition an ambiguous building, with two very different inspirations and two differing demands." Portoghesi turned to history for a solution, searching out examples of marriages between the eastern and western cultures. His own hero, the sculptor Borromini, used Arabic-style arches in the Chiesa dei Re Magi, near the Piazza di Spagna in Rome. In his mosque, Portoghesi has made dramatic use of a more modernistic version of the arches.

The interior of the mosque's dome is fashioned in a series of concentric circles. "They represent the Islamic concept of cosmology, which was also taken up by Dante in the 'Divine Comedy,'" said Portoghesi. "It's an idea present in both civilisations."

There is little that is ornate or baroque in the Rome mosque. The effect is one of space, purity and simplicity. "The inspiration comes from the first mosque, the house of Mohammed in Medina," the architect explained. "It goes back to the original idea of the courtyard of the Prophet's house, where his followers used to worship and where there were palm trees to create shade. The pillars in this mosque are in a transfiguration of those palm trees."

Modern technology has been used to ensure that the "Kibla" (prayer alcove) of the Rome mosque is precisely turned to face Mecca. Scientists have found the orientation correct to the nearest thousandth of a degree.

Delays in starting the Islamic project sent costs soaring. The original estimate, made in the



Rome is just one of the world's major cities boasting new mosques: Here, the Kufa

Lumpur mosque said to be the largest in the world

of the minaret, which currently stands at just 25 metres, far short of the 39 metres requested by the architect. Planners at the Rome

City Council turned down an application for the full height, but Portoghesi has lodged an appeal. — World News Link.

Recent years have seen the completion of major mosques in several nations, including Malaysia which is said to have the largest mosque in the world. And a new mosque is scheduled to be completed in New York City next year.

the recent turn of events in France that they have taken the logical step of disbanding completely.

Bruno programmes in his serious look when you suggest he is turning rock into an institution, putting sensible shoes and thermal underwear on its happily festering body. First he tells you, in the way that most people flash their credential cards, that he has only worn a tie once since he's been at the Ministry, and then he points to his thousand-dollar leather jacket, which was evidently a pin-striped suit in a former life, as if to make some kind of point. Next he says that what the rock Ministry is doing now is very similar to what the French government did in the '70s when it invested money in football fields for the sake of the state's coffers.

"At no point do we interfere with the creativity of the bands. We also never give money directly to groups, it's always through independent record companies, to help modernise their infrastructure [4 million francs or about \$650,000 last year]."

"Business know-how can be as important as musical talent when you're in this industry."

Absolutely Bruno, though the idea of a Rock University seems about as much use to a potential manager as croquet lessons would be to Jack the Ripper. When you're swimming in a pool of

salivating sharks, you don't go around advertising the fact that you're really just a cute little bunny rabbit.

Nevertheless, Bruno Lion has transformed the French muzak Slough of Despond into a real French music industry. He has his eye set firmly on the European export market for 1993. Leaping on a decidedly more chintz version of the bandwagon Schlitz beer and Pepsi Lite have been riding in the United States, following sales of 500,000 albums.

He is also extremely chuffed by Mano Negra's recent signing with Virgin Records. He insists the groups aren't compromising themselves by succumbing commercially, and even though Lionel Roitagle, the editor of French Rolling Stone, has suggested that the whole rock Ministry caper is a cynical attempt on Jack Lang's part to try and make himself interesting to the kids again, Bruno stresses that he's never forced anyone to accept a subsidy in his life.

Which leaves to muse on the state of the art here in France: it's clear that the French government hopes to be eating jam for a tea at future rock soirees, and that rock itself is already being eaten by powers way above its head, though, granted, with a sedate knife and fork rather than with brazen quantities of fizzy beverages, as in the United States. — International Herald Tribune

Stephanie Theobald is a free lance writer living in Paris.

Rock's first MP



Bruno Lion at the Ministry of Culture

it's all to do with the difference in consonant sounds between the English and French languages: "Yeah, yeah, yeah" sung in English is what any self-respecting chain saw murderer would say in real life. "Oui, oui, oui" in French is the sort of thing you would enunciate at a vicar's tea party.

Just as the French gag politly at the mere thought of California wine, the Anglo-Saxon attitude toward French people playing around with electric guitars and fuzz boxes has always been to snigger and tell them to get back to the cuisine. Bruno is the first to admit that rock'n' roll as such is not where France's talents lie. He has his own personal theory that

France has its own traditions which it is now starting to draw off, and which are starting to rejuvenate the French music scene.

Traditions like the chanson — singers like Piaf, Boris Vian and Georges Brassens. French popular music is currently

made up of a hodgepodge of

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AL SABEEL HOT

Economy

Italian-Jordanian panel to streamline future cooperation

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan and Italy have set up a joint committee to streamline economic cooperation and the first task that is awaiting the panel is allocating \$43 million in Italian soft loans to Jordan.

The agreement to form the committee was reached Oct. 30. Senior officials from the two sides were in Amman in early 1990 to formalise the establishment of the panel, which will be headed on the Italian side by the secretary of the Foreign Ministry in Rome, according to Dr. Massimo Lavezzo, first secretary at the Italian Embassy in Amman.

"Jordanian-Italian cooperation dates back to many years, but the first formal agreement was signed during the visit of our (then) president Sandro Pertini to Jordan in November 1984," Lavezzo told the Jordan Times in an interview.

The first protocol — "memorandum of understanding" — signed Nov. 26, 1984, provided for a \$10 million Italian grant to Jordan and \$50 million in soft loans. The grant was allocated to various projects in the next two years, but only \$7 million of the soft-loan was appropriated, Dr. Lavezzo said.

He explained that one of the conditions of the loan, which carries 1.75 per cent annual interest and repayable in 15 years with a five-year grace, was that it could be appropriated only for Italian goods or services.

The main project covered under the \$7 million loan was a potato storage plant set up in cooperation with the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company.

Projects and programmes financed by the \$10 million grant included restoration work at Jerash, the first phase of an ornamental stone workshop at Ma'an, assistance to the Queen Alia Hearing and Speech Centre, fruit-plant seedling, technical aid to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), a mobile unit for the physically handicapped, getting Royal Scientific Society laboratories, a chemical laboratory at the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, training clinical instructors and a school for the handicapped in Salt.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday November 28, 1989			
Central Bank official rates			
Buy	Sell	French franc	104.7
U.S. dollar	641.0	647.0	105.7
Pound Sterling	999.9	1009.9	202.1
Deutschmark	357.5	361.1	101.1
Swiss franc	398.9	402.9	45.9
		Belgian franc (for 10)	170.2
			171.9

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.			
One Sterling	1.5628/38	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.1665/77	Canadian dollars	
	1.7970/77	Deutschmarks	
	2.0255/65	Dutch guilders	
	1.6060/70	Swiss francs	
	37.72/74	Belgian francs	
	6.1280/330	French francs	
	1324/1325	Italian lire	
	143.74/84	Japanese yen	
	6.4100/50	Swedish crowns	
	6.8500/50	Norwegian crowns	
	6.9750/800	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	408.60/409.10	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Reuters

SYDNEY — The share market slipped, taking the all ordinarie briefly under the psychologically crucial 1600 level as selling accelerated. The index closed 13.8 down at 1600.4.

TOKYO — Late futures-related buying took the Nikkei to a fifth straight record close after prices languished in a tight range earlier. The index jumped another 103.77 to 36,985.30.

HONG KONG — Hong Kong stocks drifted down throughout the day, but bounced back from the lows. The Hang Seng Index slid 17.02 to 2,760.08.

BOMBAY — Share prices slumped on across-the-board selling as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's chances of forming a new government appeared increasingly remote.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed little changed in quiet trading. The Performance Index closed 0.4 firmer at 1,129.8.

PARIS — French shares ended easier after very thin trading though financial group Suez backed the trend in high volume to take a 23 per cent stake in Danish insurer Baltic Holding. The CAC-40 ended at 1,860.24, down 3.57 points.

LONDON — Prices were steady near the day's highs in late trading, helped by sterling's better performance after falls Monday. By 1615 GMT the FTSE index was 19.9 up at 2,244.2.

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks reversed an early decline and pushed higher with oil shares fueling the advance. At 1700 GMT the Dow was up at 2,700.09.

ILO assesses world labour trends

GENEVA (R) — Economic reforms aimed at boosting productivity have prompted state organisations and thousands of enterprises in the Soviet Union and other East Bloc nations to try to shed excess staff, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) says.

At the same time, relaxation of state control on production has given a lift to self-employment and privately managed cooperatives, the Geneva-based United Nations agency said in its annual World Labour Report released Wednesday.

Another part of the report said that, with the exception of a handful of industrialised nations, public servants' pay packets were getting thinner by the year.

In the section assessing what perestroika, or restructuring, had meant to labour in Eastern Europe, the report said an estimated 140,000 workers lost their jobs in 1987 in plants run by the Soviet petroleum ministry.

It predicted new types of orga-

nisation requiring higher labour force mobility and changes in the system of remuneration in order to provide greater incentives.

"In the end, however, everything will depend on the nature and vigour of economic growth on the consistency with which reforms are carried out," the report said.

The rate of employment growth in both the state and cooperative sectors fell to 0.6 per cent a year for all centrally planned economy countries between 1980 and 1987, compared with 2.2 per cent during the 1970s.

The report said it was difficult to foresee what effect the present economic reforms would have on the employment situation in these countries.

"But the trend toward more self-employment in the form of individual labour activities and within cooperatives is likely to grow," it added.

It described the situation in

countries as slightly better. But it noted that between 1980 and 1986 salaries did between one and 16 per cent in countries such as Denmark (-1.2 per cent), West Germany (-2.2), Sweden (-7.2), Australia (-13.2) and the Netherlands (-15.8).

In some industrialised states, salaries did increase between 2.8 per cent in France to 17.1 per cent in Finland.

British salaries rose by 11.5 per cent between 1980 and 1986, those of Italy by 13 per cent, the United States 10.5 per cent and Japan 14.5 per cent in the same period.

But increases were comparatively lower than those of the private sector, the ILO report said.

"Poor work and irregular attendance can become the norm for many who see little reason for working as hard as before when their real salaries have dropped by half or more," it said.

Algerian delegation tours industrial sites

AMMAN (Petra) — An Algerian economic delegation, currently on a visit to Jordan, Tuesday visited the Amman Industrial Estate in Sahab where they were received by its Director-General Fayed Suheimat who briefed them on the estate's role in supporting the industrial sector.

Suheimat also spoke about the incentives provided by the estate to encourage investments in Jordan. He voiced hope that cooperation ties will be further enhanced between Jordan and Algeria for the best interest and welfare of people in both countries.

The delegation members toured a number of industrial institutions and inspected their production and performance.

Later Tuesday, the delegation

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

'Arab economies run in circles'

AUBA DHABI (R) — Arab economies are entering the 1990s in a vicious circle of poor production capacity and increasing demand from growing populations, the Arab Banks Union (ABU) said in its latest annual survey. "To break this vicious cycle, our economies need efforts to increase the performance of our production," said the report from the Beirut-based organisation, which groups about 90 per cent of Arab banks. "We are supposed to provide new jobs for 85 million workers by the end of this century. We should not enter (the new century) counting our illiteracy rates and food gaps," it said. The report, which covers statistical data for 1988, said the value of the Arab World's gross domestic product (GDP), the measure of domestic economic activity, fell by six per cent in 1988 while world GDP grew. It said the decline was due to a drop in the price of oil to an average \$14 a barrel from \$17.4 in 1987. The report valued total Arab World GDP in 1988 at \$362.3 billion and estimated that per capita income as a share of GDP fell to \$1,715 in 1988 from around \$2,500 in the first years of the decade. As a result, local investment fell sharply at a time when capital from abroad, including aid and loans, also declined, the report said. It said total Arab foreign debt reached \$123 billion in 1988.

Iranian share trading increases

NICOSIA (R) — Shares worth 3.8 billion riyals (\$53 million at the official rate) were traded on the Tehran stock exchange in the eight months to Nov. 21, Iranian television has said. It said volume was 60 per cent higher than the same period last year and the exchange hoped that investor interest would increase in coming years. Iran has no tradition of investing in shares. Most people prefer to put their money into bank deposits, property or gold. The television said the exchange, established in 1967, set a record volume of 44 billion riyals (\$610 million) in the year to March 20, 1978. It said the shares of 105 companies or banks and four different bonds were then traded on the exchange. Deals virtually halted for five years after the 1979 revolution. The volume of shares traded last Iranian year to March 20 totalled 10 billion riyals (\$139 million), with most of the transactions just before the Iranian new year, the television said. The finance ministry said last year that any company with more than 100 shareholders could register at the exchange.

Japan proposes amending farm policy

GENEVA (R) — Japan has proposed ending export subsidies in a global plan to reform world farm trade, but said it would be hard to abolish all state support for farmers. A Japanese paper said countries should be allowed to curb food imports when necessary to maintain food security by keeping up domestic production of basic foodstuffs. National food security needs were among social concerns — such as preservation of land and environment, overall employment and maintenance of local communities — which gave agriculture a special character, Japan said. "In view of the variety of roles played by agriculture, it would be difficult to do away with agricultural support," it said.

Baltic republics gain economic autonomy

MOSCOW (AP) — Legislators Monday approved major Kremlin concessions and granted the Baltic republics the right to issue their own currency and take a share of profits from centrally controlled factories.

After four months of work, the Supreme Soviet gave final approval to a plan handing Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia on the road to economic autonomy from Moscow beginning Jan. 1.

In other action, the legislators gave preliminary approval to the Soviet Union's first law explicitly repudiating years of press censorship.

Deputies from the tiny Baltic republic of Estonia smiled, stood and cheered after the legislature approved the economic independence measure on a vote of 296-67. Thirty-seven deputies abstained.

"It's a very big step forward," Lithuanian Communist Party chief Algirdas Brazauskas said in an interview after the vote. He had a wide smile and said he was in a "very good mood."

Estonian legislator Mihail Bronishten, an economist, called the vote a "big victory" for his republic.

President Mikhail Gorbachev, who presided over the debate, also had praise.

"We need such a law to move us forward on the road to economic reform," he told the more than 400 legislators gathered in the Kremlin.

His chief economic advisor, Deputy Premier Leonid Abalkin, said the Baltics would be taking "brave radical" steps and blasted opponents for a "presumption of guilt" that the republics would take advantage of the law to the detriment of the rest of the country.

Abalkin Friday said the Baltics can move toward economic independence under the new law only within the framework of the federation but said all 15 republics will be allowed to have such status in 1991.

The law was given preliminary

approval in July and sent to legislative committees for further work.

Abalkin said that provision meant the Baltics could develop their own currency for use within the republics, although they would still be required to use the ruble in dealing with the rest of the country.

Politicians and economists in all three republics are considering setting up their own currencies because the value of the ruble has plunged but indicated such a radical step.

One deputy said the provision would allow the republics to create their own "separate fiefdoms."

The law also gives the republics a say over how the incomes of businesses on its territory is spent, and legislators said this meant the republics would get half of their profits.

Control of pipelines and highways running through the Baltics is to be decided on agreement of the central government and the republics, but Abalkin said such items would remain in Moscow's hands.

A final vote on the bill had been delayed from Friday after a sharp debate on whether the move amounted to a renewal or an effort to tear apart the Soviet system.

One deputy from the Soviet far east, Nikolai Daniluk, said Friday he opposed the bill because "I would not like to become a participant in the disintegration of our great state."

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EC trade with Eastern Europe is small. It totalled \$56 billion in 1987, the latest year for which complete figures are available. EC-Soviet trade that year was only \$24.6 billion.

However, he noted that the committee intends to draw up a draft statute for a special ministerial council in cooperation with the ACC general secretariat.

Officials could not give an assessment of the economic impact of the Soviet agreement.

"It is impossible to measure that," said the EC source, adding this depends on the degree to which economic realities can be increased and at what pace.

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February, gave trade concessions for ACP exports, loans on easy terms and financial aid worth 8.5 billion ECU's (\$9.4 billion) over five years. Named after the Togo capital, where the first convention was signed in 1975, it is the biggest pact of its kind.

"It's the best possible figure given the circumstances," a French diplomat said.

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Sports

Daniels takes WBA title on split decision

PARIS (R) — Robert Daniels beat fellow American Dwight Qawi on a split points decision to win the vacant WBA junior heavyweight title Monday.

The 23-year-old Daniels won by the narrowest margin against his experienced opponent, 13 years older and with former world titles in two different weights to his name.

One of the three judges, all female, gave the fight 116-113 in Qawi's favour but the other two went for the younger man 115-113 and 115-114 respectively.

The two fighters were contesting a title vacated by Frenchman Taoufik Belbouli in August because of a knee injury. Daniels is to meet Belbouli in a title challenge early next year.

Qawi, using his experience and ringcraft to effect, dominated the early rounds, catching his opponent with several right hooks.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1989
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Unlikely midmorning you are too apt to get involved in an argument over a slight of personal nature or where your pride is concerned.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Join with your family in adding to home restoration. A romantic time for you and your mate if you are alone.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Don't let friends take advantage of you at this time. A day of much excitement at your residence.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Let your attachment know how much you appreciate them around. Joining a social group would be good for you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Much activity at home will be a good release now. You will have some good ideas to increase your money.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Follow the business advice of a very successful person. You will enjoy the company of friends at social events.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Your own ideas are now best for you in any business project. Speak your romantic devotion to your attachment.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Try to get a member of your family to go on a trip with you. You would be wise to analyze your business projects.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A financing associate, will help in making more money. Make those necessary changes to your home at this time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Accept a new idea extended by an associate to make more money.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AQJ72 ♦Q3 ♦AK3 ♦Q982

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦J7632 ♦AKJ92 ♦K7 ♦6

Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦AQJ72 ♦Q3 ♦AK3 ♦Q982

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

SPORTS IN BRIEF

KASPAROV WINS BELGRADE CHESS TOURNAMENT: World Champion Gary Kasparov won the Belgrade international chess tournament Monday with a three-point margin, defeating Yugoslav grand master Predrag Nikolic. Kasparov won in a Nimzo Indian defence after four-and-a-half hours of play. The victory gave Kasparov 9.5 points and he will get a new 12 rating points giving him 2,805 taking him further ahead of former American world champion Robert Fisher who had 2,780. British grand master Nigel Short lost his last game of the tournament to Soviet grand master Artur Jusupov in a Ruy Lopez opening and tied ninth place in the final standings. Besel Kok, the Grand Masters' Association, said two venues had been set for next October's world championship, Lyon, France and an American city which he did not name.

SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL TO SIGN FOR SHEFFIELD: Swedish international full-back Roland Nilsson is to sign for struggling English first division side Sheffield Wednesday for £375,000 (\$855,000). Nilsson, 26, had a trial with the club earlier this month and Sheffield Wednesday manager Ron Atkinson announced on Tuesday he had agreed the fee with the player's club IFX Gothenburg. Manchester United had hoped to sign Nilsson on loan until the end of the season but both Gothenburg and the player preferred Wednesday's firm offer. Nilsson will have to wait for a work permit before he can make his debut for his new side.

11,000 TICKETS FOR INAUGURAL WORLD CUP GAME SELL IN HOURS: Soccer fans bought about 11,000 tickets for the inaugural game of next year's World Cup soccer championship on the first day of sale Monday, organizers said. Tickets for the June 8 match between defending champion Argentina and an as yet unnamed opponent went on sale at the countries of one of the largest Italian banks. The game, at Milan's Meazza stadium, is expected to produce a sold-out crowd of 80,000. Argentina's opponent will be named on Dec. 9, when the draw for the six World Cup groups is held in Rome.

TWO FIRST DIVISION BOSSSES FIRED: Two English first division managers were fired Monday for failing to achieve instant success. Less than halfway into the season, Mel Machin, who took Manchester City up from division 2 at the end of last term, paid the price for being unable to continue winning by being dismissed. City is one place off the bottom of the standings with four victories from 15 games. A bigger surprise was the dismissal of Queens Park Rangers' Trevor Francis, a former star player with the London team who had been in the job for less than a season. A brief statement from the club said that Francis' appointment had ended "over differing opinions as to management style." Rangers said Francis may still be kept on as a player but said it would not discuss the matter further. Two weeks ago, Rangers upset Liverpool 3-2 in a league game, a victory that appeared to make Francis' position as manager secure.

EUROPEAN SOCCER

Madrid awaits Real-Atletico rematch

By Reuters

MADRID is racing itself for a potentially explosive evening Thursday when city soccer rivals Real and Atletico meet in their controversial Spanish cup second leg tie at the Bernabeu stadium.

Extra security has been ordered after the goalless first leg ended in uproar with Atletico President Jesus Gil Y Gil accusing the referee of being a Real Madrid fan.

Gil Y Gil and coach Javier Clemente are under investigation by the Spanish Football Federation who could charge them with bringing the game into disrepute.

Gil held a referendum on whether the team should boycott the second leg but Atletico members and supporters voted for the game to go ahead.

The authorities regard the game as high risk but Real's Miguel Chendo said he did not expect violence. "This is not a war," he said.

Meanwhile, Real midfielder Rafael Martin Vasquez, hero of the 7-2 weekend trouncing of Zaragoza, has become Spanish football's latest hot property.

Real President Ramon Mendoza, who had delayed negotiations on renewing the player's contract at the end of the season, hastened after the game to say the pair would talk shortly.

Martin Vasquez said he was in no hurry to sign and might decide to wait until after the World Cup to sort out possible offers from

abroad. will win the award for a record third time.

Last year they made a clean sweep with Milan's other two Dutchmen, Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard, second and third.

A delegation from PSV Eindhoven including team coach Guus Hiddink and striker Romario went to the Brazilian embassy in the Hague on Sunday to discuss problems over the release of the Brazilian player for World Cup preparations.

The Brazilian Football Association want their squad together from April 23 but PSV are reluctant to lose Romario before the end of the Dutch season and the European Cup final.

Further talks with the Brazilian soccer authorities will be held

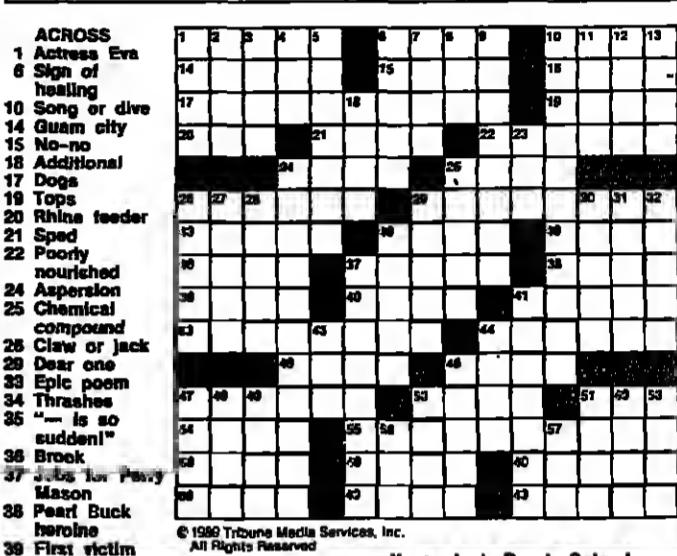
when Brazil play the Netherlands in a friendly on December 20.

PSV meanwhile denied press reports that Danish international Soren Lerby is to retire at the end of the season. Manager Kees Ploegsma said he would be talking to Lerby shortly, with a decision on the 31-year-old midfielder's future expected in the next 14 days.

Ajax Amsterdam are hoping to attract Internazionale Milan to join Real Madrid and Steaua Bucharest in the four-team tournament they are planning for early next year.

Ajax expected no objections from the European Football Union (UEFA) despite their one-year ban from official European competition after hooliganism at a UEFA cup tie in September.

THE Daily Crossword



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

STING	RIDS	ADAM
HALLO	CDAW	BODIN
BTILL	OGIE	SWINE
GAIIS	AYERS	FEED
LIILL	VENTURE	
VERDNE		
RESMERS	SMEFOAT	
OTTI		MORE
GRANKED	GRADUATE	
CLITE	WEB	ETC
OTTIDMAN	DANE	
ABAL	LOSSLEADER	
SELMIA	TEEM	NAME
ELIMB		
DEBUT	DAD	RIAS
34 Follows	48 Wheel holder	
37 Garden heads	48 Vegetable	
41 Ray of music	50 Urish —	
43 Charged	51 Related	
particle	52 Small fiction	
44 So patient	53 Nora's dog	
45 Brutal	55 Broad type	
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Masters is part of Lendl's mission

By Bob Greene
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ivan Lendl is a man with a mission, and the Masters tennis tournament, which started Tuesday night, is just a step in the right direction.

"I put my tournaments and matches in three categories," said Lendl, who is seeking his 10th consecutive berth in the final, and sixth title, in the Masters. "First, there's the grand slams, then the Masters, then the other tournaments."

"I don't treat them differently. I treat the preparation for them differently. This is a mid-goal, not a main goal."

Standing in Lendl's way is an 11th tournament title this year is defending Masters champion Boris Becker, three-time winner John McEnroe, French Open champion Michael Chang, Stefan Edberg, Brad Gilbert, Aaron Krickstein and Andre Agassi.

The four-day, Round-Robin portion of the year-ending

tournament got underway Tuesday night with Agassi playing Edberg, Lendl meeting Chang and Becker taking on Gilbert.

On Wednesday, McEnroe will play Aaron Krickstein, Becker meets Agassi and Edberg takes on Gilbert. Thursday's matches will pit Lendl against Krickstein, McEnroe against Chang and Agassi against Gilbert. Edberg plays Becker, Lendl plays McEnroe and Chang plays Krickstein on Friday.

Each player receives \$15,000 for qualifying and \$30,000 for each Round-Robin victory. The winning semifinalists collect \$60,000 each and the champion and additional \$150,000. A player who wins the title undefeated would pocket \$315,000.

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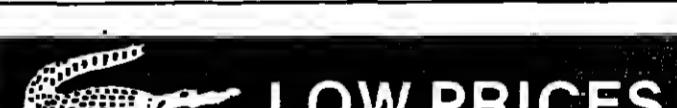
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Indian opposition ready to form next government

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — The National Front said Tuesday it was ready to exercise its "sacred duty" to form the next government of the world's largest democracy.

After winning pledges of support from the left and the right, the second-largest vote-getter said its parliament members would meet Wednesday and select a prime minister.

The nation's political scene was plunged into uncertainty when elections gave Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his Congress Party the most seats in parliament, but not enough to form a government.

The voting started last Wednesday and ended Sunday. About 85 per cent of results have been announced, and counting continues.

"The mandate in this election is unmistakably a mandate for a change of government," the National Front said in a statement read by its chief spokesman, Dinesh Goswami, as the president of the five-party alliance.

"The people of India want a non-Congress government to replace the corrupt and inefficient Congress government. It is therefore the sacred duty of the National Front to respect this mandate and to express its readiness to form a government," the statement said.

The National Front's opted for an ideologically diverse alliance, with partners ranging from Communists to Hindu nationalists.

But Gandhi apparently was gambling that the coalition will not hold together against its internal contradictions, analysts said.

Gandhi is now in the role of caretaker prime minister, following the dissolution of the old parliament Monday night. The dissolution was the first formal step toward the seating of the new parliament, which cannot take place until the election commission certifies results.

National Front leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh, a former Gandhi ally, met Tuesday with leaders of the Communist Party-Marxist, who said they would support the National Front as long as it does not make a formal coalition with the right-wing Hindhu Bharatiya Party.

Smaller Communist and leftist

groups also offered their support with the same conditions, Indian news agencies said.

The Bharatiya Janata Party said Monday it would support the National Front without entering into a binding coalition.

With 451 of the 525 contested seats declared, the Congress Party and its small-party allies just under 200 seats, far short of the 263 needed for an absolute majority.

The National Front had 102, according to television reports citing tallies from the Election Commission.

In Gandhi's own race for a seat, representing the Amethi district, the independent government-appointed Election Commission ordered a re-pol after Gandhi's allies allegedly tried to rig the first vote, last Wednesday.

The latest trends in Amethi showed Gandhi leading opposition candidate Rajmohan Gandhi by a large margin.

Rajmohan Gandhi, the grandson of India's beloved independence leader, Mohandas Gandhi, and no relation to the prime minister, called for a boycott of the party's revoe and demanded new balloting throughout the entire constituency.

Rather than rush into a coalition attempt of his own, Gandhi seems prepared to wait patiently and watch the National Front flounder, the Times of India said.

"Apparently, Mr. Gandhi is attempting to catch the opposition on the wrong foot by forcing the various opposition groups to take up the difficult task of cobbling together a government," the Independent newspaper said.

The Times' scenario meshed with remarks by Congress Party spokesman Anand Sharma, who said Monday the party was "not in a tearing hurry" to form a government.

"The alliance, if any, will be ill-matched and bound to result in a divorce sooner or later," Murlihara Bhadra, a Congress legislator in parliament's Upper House, wrote in the party newspaper, National Herald. "It is in the interest of the Congress not to opt for forming a government

with any alliance or support."

India has never had a coalition government — or a minority government — since it was freed from British rule in 1947.

The Congress Party, whose name was virtually synonymous with independence, has governed India for all but 29 months since then, usually with hefty majorities.

In the current election, the Congress Party lost heavily to the National Front in northern India, traditionally a Congress bastion. But it made major inroads in southern India, toppling some anti-Congress regional leaders.

In addition, some of Gandhi's chief antagonists within the Congress Party lost in this month's elections. While this may embitter them because of the party's failure, it also tends to neutralize them in any challenge of Gandhi within.

Two Sikh militants accused of conspiring to kill Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi won parliamentary seats Tuesday without stepping out of their jail cells.

Simranjit Singh Mann and Atinder Pal Singh, both being held without trial under anti-terrorist laws, won easily as the most hardline of the Sikh political parties made big gains in violence-racked Punjab state.

Bimal Kaur Khalsa, widow of Sikh bodyguard Beant Singh who gunned down Gandhi in the garden of her Delhi home in 1984, also won by a huge margin for the Akali Dal (Mann) group.

Her husband was shot by other bodyguards shortly after the killing, while a second assassin and a co-conspirator were hanged last January.

Beant Singh's father Sacha Singh took one of the eight seats out of 13 won by the Mann group as it emerged the strongest faction of the badly splintered Akali Movement in Punjab.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party took just two seats, losing four of its sitting members. A Mann candidate also defeated Devi Lal, one of main leaders of the opposition National Front alliance.

Moderate Sikh leader Kanwaljit Singh acknowledged his Akali faction had miscalculated the mood of ordinary Sikh voters who showed wide support for the militants.

Salvadorean witness recalls last words of Jesuit priest

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — The last words anyone heard the Rev. Ignacio Martin-Baro say were: "What an injustice. What carnage."

A few minutes later he and five Jesuit colleagues were gunned down. The killers seemed determined to leave no witnesses: the cook and her teen-age daughter were also slain.

But someone survived the Nov. 16 massacre at Jose Simeon Canas Central American University, a cleaning lady named Lucia Barreto de Cerna.

In sworn testimony made available by an investigating judge to the Associated Press and two other news organisations Monday, Mrs. Barreto, 44, said the killers wore military uniforms.

Until Monday, only sketchy second-hand accounts were available of her testimony about the killings that stunned El Salvador and caused an international outcry.

"I don't discount any possibility. It's probably members of the military," said Ricardo Zamora, the investigating judge who took her statement on Nov. 22 at the Spanish embassy, where the woman hid until fleeing to Miami last week under the protection of U.S. officials.

Mrs. Barreto said she was sleeping in a nearby building when she was awakened early Tuesday by gunfire and mortars exploding in the city's northern sector in renewed combat between government forces and leftist rebels.

Flares were dropped by circling helicopters over the northern neighbourhoods of Mejicanos and Ciudad Delgado, and more than two dozen mortar rounds shattered the pre-dawn silence after 3 a.m. (0800 GMT).

Assault-rifle and occasional machine-gun fire was heard, but those exchanges were not heavy or sustained.

Guerillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, or FMLN, on Nov. 11 launched 12 days of often-fierce combat to San Salvador and several provincial cities.

The rebels have said that fighting was a first phase of a broader operation.

The government of President Alfredo Cristiani contends it defeated the insurgent push. But Cristiani also said last week, "they are doing some things that look more like regrouping than retreating."

On Sunday, Cristiani broke relations with Nicaragua to protest the alleged shipment of arms from Nicaragua to El Salvador's rebels.

He called Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega "a puppet of international Communist aggression." Ortega said he was glad not to have relations with "a

Caught in a Deadly Cross-Fire

The guerrillas and the Army battled it out among innocent civilians



Fresh gunfire awakens San Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Much of San Salvador was awakened early Tuesday by gunfire and mortars exploding in the city's northern sector in renewed combat between government forces and leftist rebels.

Genocidal government that kills priests."

That was a reference to the Salvadorean Air Force's strafing and rocketing of populated neighbourhoods of the capital in response to this month's guerrilla offensive and to the slaying of six Jesuit educators in Nov. 16.

El Salvador Monday requested an urgent Security Council meeting on Wednesday to deal with what it called violations by Nicaragua of the Central American peace accords.

A letter from El Salvador's U.N. representative, Ricardo Castaneda, said unless a stop was put to the violations peace in Central America would be threatened and a conflict with incalculable effects could be unleashed.

A Security Council source said members would consult privately on Tuesday to consider the request for a meeting.

The United States said Monday it lodged a strong protest with the Soviet embassy over Nicaragua's alleged attempt to ship Soviet-bloc weaponry to Salvadorean rebels.

Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said the Central American issue, as a result of the alleged shipment of arms from Nicaragua to El Salvador's rebels, will become a prime area of discussion when President George Bush meets with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on Dec. 2-3 in the Mediterranean off Malta.

The protest note deplores the

"dangerous escalation of conflict contrary to Soviet assurances," Ms. Tutwiler said.

Meanwhile the mother of Jennifer Casolo, a 28-year-old American arrested in El Salvador, and a U.S. church group she works for said Monday they believe she is innocent of possessing arms and explosives.

The guerrillas denied on rebel radio they had any links with Casolo, who was arrested after police found an arms cache under her house in San Salvador.

Christian Education seminars, a Texas-based non-denominational organisation that provides religious and congressional groups with information on El Salvador, and the Americas Watch human rights groups urged Washington to assure that Casolo gets a free and fair trial.

They said statements by U.S. officials conveyed the impression that the charges are warranted.

Casolo was arrested Sunday by police who said a captured guerrilla tipped them off on the location of the cache.

The Salvadorean police would not say if Casolo had been formally charged, but said she could be held for up to 15 days without charge under a state of siege laws imposed after rebels launched an offensive on Nov. 11.

"She's being set up," Audrey Casolo, the woman's mother, said in a telephone interview with Reuters from her home in Thosmon, Connecticut. "She had no knowledge of this."

Column 10

Picasso sold at bargain price

LONDON (R) — A Japanese businessman snapped up Picasso's painting "La Maternite" at a bargain price of £7.15 million (\$11.2 million) at a London auction. Auctioneers Christie's had expected the work to fetch at least £10 million (\$15.4 million). The Picasso was overtaken by Cezanne's still life "Pommes et Serviette," which went for £11 million (\$17.2 million), nearly double its estimate, to an anonymous buyer. Yasumichi Morishita, consultant chairman of Asia International in Tokyo, said he believed he got the Picasso at a bargain. The price includes a seller's premium. "He was only really interested in the Picasso. He has 20 others of his works and he didn't really give a thought for the price," an interpreter said on his behalf. Yet Morishita could not resist picking up Monet's winter scene "L'Eglise de Jeu de Paume" for £3.85 million (\$6 million) and Renoir's "La Famille" for £2.42 million (\$3.7 million).

Wines reach record prices

MONACO (R) — A 1946 vintage of Chateau Mouton-Rothschild, one of France's most celebrated red Bordeaux Grand Crus, fetched a world record price of 16,000 francs (\$2,600) at a Monaco wine auction, organisers said. The auction, held on Sunday night in a Monaco gallery, sold another 43 bottles from the same vineyard, dating from 1945 to 1986, for a total of 121,000 francs (\$20,000). Buyers were mostly wine merchants from the United States, Britain and other European countries, auctioneer Maurice Renaud said. Recent vintages also sold well. A 1961 Magnum of Chateau Petrus went for 20,000 francs (\$3,200) and a 1979 Romanee-Conti from the Burgundy region fetched 14,500 francs (\$2,400), also a world record price for that wine.

Monroe's bed is up for sale

NEW YORK (R) — If the red shoes that Judy Garland wore in the Wizard of Oz can sell for \$160,000 then how much is Marilyn Monroe's marital bed — the one she shared with baseball great Joe DiMaggio — worth? This is the question that a Ho-Kus, New Jersey, antiques dealer named June Regal is posing these days as she tries to sell the four-poster bed at an auction on Dec. 16. Her partial answer is that she wants a minimum of \$2,500 for the English oak bed from the home Monroe and DiMaggio lived in during their March to October 1954 marriage. The bed and Beverly Hills house were rented to the couple by Hollywood decorator Barbara Baundess MacLean, who is selling off part of her possessions to fund a foundation for aspiring actors. Regal says that if the bed did not have the Monroe-DiMaggio connection it might only be worth between \$8,000 and \$10,000. But she adds, "People have paid \$1,200 for a bra Marilyn once owned and \$2,400 for a cotton dress she wore in the movie Bus Stop. A pair of red shoes that Judy Garland wore in the Wizard of Oz fetched \$160,000 at auction last year." So the bed should be worth a lot even though the marriage didn't last.

American buys Lenin death mask

LONDON (AP) — The first death mask of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin sold at auction Monday for £6,600 (\$10,200). Phillips Auction House said. An unidentified American bought the mask of the founder of the Soviet Union. The seller was not identified. The mask apparently was cast by sculptor Sergei Merkulov on Jan. 21, 1924, the night Lenin died at age 53 after suffering two strokes. It is known to have been given to a person in the West who was regarded as a friend and supporter of the revolution and is being sold by descendants. Lenin's remains are preserved and displayed in his tomb in Moscow's Red Square. The mask was part of a sale of 20th century Russian art, recently allowed out of the Soviet Union. A porcelain bust of Lenin's successor Joseph Stalin, made in Leningrad in 1947, did not sell. The highest price paid at Monday's auction was £190,000 (\$294,500) for a Lubov Sergeyevna Popova oil painting, "Composition With Guitar."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Pretoria vows action on death squads

JOHANNESBURG (R) — President F.W. De Klerk said Tuesday he was ready to take strong action if a report he had ordered concluded that police death squads were responsible for assassinating scores of anti-apartheid figures. De Klerk called for the report from Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok last week following allegations by white former police Captain Dirk Coetzee that his squads systematically murdered government opponents. De Klerk told a police parade in Pretoria he would receive the report "within days." It would enable the government to decide on what further steps to take. "In as far as may be necessary, strong action will be taken," he said.

Ted Kennedy files to West Berlin

WEST BERLIN (R) — Senator Edward Kennedy flew to West Berlin Tuesday and declared as his murdered brother President John F. Kennedy did a quarter of a century ago: "Ich bin ein Berliner." On Tuesday few Berliners shopping at an open-air market in the square outside the hall — renamed John F. Kennedy Platz after the president's assassination — paid much attention when his youngest brother arrived to pay a fresh tribute to Berlin. Speaking 19 days after East Germany opened the wall, Kennedy told civic leaders inside the Schoenberger Town Hall: "I come here to celebrate the end of the wall." He said: "This month belongs to those hailed by President Kennedy for standing 'on the front lines of freedom' — those who escaped the wall, and those shot down trying those who have inhabited this island of freedom and made it live and prosper; those on the other side who never lost hope despite the odds — in short, all the people of Berlin, West and East ... You have nobly carried the burden and the glory of these long years...the proper toast is 'ich bin ein Berliner' (I am a Berliner)."

De Klerk to visit Ivory Coast

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — South African President F.W. De Klerk will visit Ivory Coast for talks with President Felix Houphouet-Boigny on Dec. 1-2, the Ministry of Communications announced Tuesday. A ministry communiqué said De Klerk was scheduled to arrive in Yamoussoukro, Houphouet-Boigny's hometown, at 11:00 (1100 GMT) Friday morning. It will be the third visit of a South African head of state to Ivory Coast.

Shuttle Discovery lands

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, California (AP) — Space shuttle Discovery streaked out of orbit and landed safely Monday at the end of a secret military mission extended an extra day by high winds at this desert air base. Air Force Col. Frederick Gregory, commander of the five-astronaut crew, guided the winged spaceplane to a touchdown on a concrete runway at 4:30 p.m. California time (0030 GMT). The landing capped a five-day flight that covered nearly 2 million miles (3.2 million kilometres) and reportedly put in orbit a satellite to monitor military communications over a wide area of the globe.

Satellite heading back to Earth

WASHINGTON (AP) — Solar Max, the satellite that got a heart transplant in space and lived for another five years studying the sun, is expected to return to Earth this weekend — maybe in pieces. "We expect it to come down on Dec. 2, plus or minus 24 hours," Capt. Thomas Niemann of the U.S. Space Command in Colorado said. The \$77-million space probe has been getting scientific information for almost 10 years, covering almost one complete solar cycle. But its fuel ran out and it is no longer possible to keep it out of the clutch of Earth's atmosphere.

Ruling unlikely to end French debate on scarves

PARIS (AP) — After months of bitter debate over the place of religion in school, France's top administrative body has ruled that Muslim girls could wear headscarves in class without infringing the country's secular educational tradition.

But the Council of State, asked for a ruling by France's political establishment, said that in certain cases individual headteachers had the right to ban students who insisted on wearing headscarves in class.

The ultra-right National Front, meanwhile, looked set to return to parliament after surprising gains in weekend by-elections, apparently boosted by anti-immigrant fears whipped up by the affair.

The Council of State announced its decision in a special statement.

The wearing by students of signs which denote their membership of a religion is not in itself incompatible with the principles of secularity, it said.

Individual headteachers should decide whether wearing the scarf was "an act of pressure, provocation, preaching